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staff assistant and advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)) and the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense for Reserve component matters in the Department of Defense. The ASD(RA) is responsible for overall supervision of all Reserve component affairs in the Department of Defense. In this capacity, the ASD(RA) shall:

- (a) Develop policies, conduct analyses, provide advice, and make recommendations to the USD(P&R) and the Secretary of Defense, and issue guidance to the DoD Components on matters pertaining to the Reserve components.
- (b) Develop systems and standards for the administration and management of approved DoD Reserve component plans and programs.
- (c) Develop and promulgate plans, programs, actions, and taskings to ensure adherence to DoD policies and national security objectives to promote the effective integration of Reserve component capabilities into a cohesive total force.
- (d) Review and evaluate programs of the DoD Components that impact on the reserve components; monitor the activities of reserve component organizations, training facilities, and associations; and undertake other management oversight activities as may be required to ensure that policies, plans, programs, and actions pertaining to the reserve components:
- (1) Adhere to approved DoD policies and standards.
- (2) Are compatible and support total force objectives and requirements.
- (3) Enhance the readiness and capabilities of reserve component units and personnel.
- (4) Promote the integration of reserve components with active duty forces.
- (5) Make the most effective use of reserve components within the total force.
- (e) Participate in planning, programming, and budgeting activities that relate to assigned areas of responsibility.
- (f) Promote, with respect to the reserve components, coordination, cooperation, and mutual understanding within the Department of Defense and among the Department of Defense and

other federal agencies, state and local governments, the civilian community at large, and the employers of Reserve component personnel.

(g) Promote family support plans, policies, and programs in line with the

reserve component mission.

- (h) Serve on boards, committees, and other groups pertaining to assigned functional areas and represent the Secretary of Defense on reserve component matters outside the Department.
- (i) Consistent with 10 U.S.C. 675, coordinate issues and positions of the Reserve Force Policy Board (RFPB) and review reports of the RFPB prior to forwarding to the USD(P&R) and the Secretary of Defense. Provide administrative staff support to the RFPB.
- (j) Serve as the vice chairman of the Conventional Forces Readiness Committee.
- (k) Perform such other functions as the USD(P&R) and the Secretary of Defense may prescribe.

§ 344.5 Relationships.

- (a) In the performance of assigned functions and responsibilities, the ASD(RA) shall serve under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(P&R) and shall:
- (1) Report directly to the USD(P&R). (2) Exercise authority, direction, and control over the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.
- (3) Coordinate and exchange information with the OSD officials, Head of the DoD components, and Federal officials having collateral or related functions.
- (4) Use existing facilities and services of the Department of Defense or other Federal Agencies, whenever practicable, to avoid duplication and to achieve maximum efficiency and economy.
- (b) Other OSD officials and the Heads of the DoD components shall coordinate with the ASD(RA) on all matters related to the responsibilities and functions cited in §344.4.

§ 344.6 Authorities.

The ASD(RA) is hereby delegated authority to:

(a) Act for the Secretary of Defense, in accordance with section 411 of Pub. L. 103-160 and future authorization acts